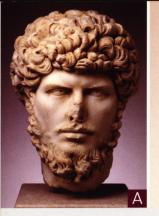
## HAIR!



Since the dawn of civilization, human beings have spent ridiculous amounts of time fashioning their hair. Use this guide to navigate some of TMA's hair triumphs and tragedies (we'll let you decide which is which).

















### A:: CLASSIC COURT (GALLERY 2) Roman, Emperor Lucius Verus, about A.D. 161-169

Some people would give anything for a full head of thick, curly hair like this (or at least they would have in the '70s). Roman Emperor Lucius Verus knew how best to work it: he often sprinkled his blond locks with gold dust!

#### B:: Gallery 3 Constantin Brancusi, Blond Negress I, 1926

Romanian-born modernist sculptor Brancusi used just two elements to indicate a simple, elegant, and exotic hairstyle in this abstract portrait of a young African woman. The polished, reflective surface could even double as a mirror for a quick check to make sure your own tresses are behaving.

## C:: AFRICAN GALLERY (GALLERY 6) Ejagham Peoples, Crest Helmet, early 20th century

Ladies, if you're looking to attract attention with a new 'do, you might consider this dramatic style. Although exaggerated, the spiraling "horns" represent a braided hairstyle worn by young marriageable Ejagham girls at their "coming out" ceremony after a traditional period of seclusion.

#### D:: Gallery 5 Lorna Simpson, Wigs, 2000

Wigs have been used since the earliest days of civilization to communicate status, identity, and yes—to cover baldness. Lorna Simpson uses printed images of wigs and hairpieces to explore issues of identity, race, beauty, and culture, proving that hair can do a lot more than just cover our heads.

#### E:: Gallery 19 Lucas Cranach the Elder, Saints Catherine, Margaret, and Bridget, about 1515–20

In the early 1500s in the court of Saxony in eastern Germany, foreheads were *in*. Women plucked their hairlines and their eyebrows in order to present the smoothest, shiniest expanse of skin possible. These Christian saints sport the height of Saxon court fashion, but their hair also communicates something else about their status: they wear it loose, like unmarried girls did, indicating that they are virgin martyrs.

## F:: Gallery 28A Thomas Gainsborough, *The Countess of Sussex and Her Daughter*, 1771

This English mother and daughter are a study in contrasts, hair-wise. The young girl's hair is unpowdered and pulled back in a simple style with chunky bangs (and topped by a

rather silly cap). Her mother, on the other hand, displays the height of fashion with her upswept style, enhanced by padding into a conehead-like helmet surmounted by a headdress of lace and blue ribbons that match the powder in her hair.

# G:: The Octagon (Gallery 28) After Martin Desjardins, Equestrian Monument of Louis XIV, about 1688–91 (cast about 1700)

The taste for wigs worn by men in the 1600s and 1700s began when French king Louis XIII went prematurely bald and covered the fact with a luxurious hairpiece. His son, "Sun King" Louis XIV, was not only follicley challenged, but vertically challenged as well. His long curly wig was kept fluffed up on top so that he would appear taller.

#### CONTINUED ON BACK





#### H:: Gallery 29A China, Tang Dynasty, Two Young Ladies of the Tang Court, 618–907

Princess Leia may have lived in a galaxy far, far away, but she seems to have stolen her hairstyle from Tang Dynasty China. Women in the wealthy, literate, and cultured Tang (pronounced "dong") court took pride in creative hairstyles that indicated their status and complemented their faces—preferably round and plump with artfully painted-on eyebrows to meet the standard of beauty of the day.

Enjoy your tour? Visit www.toledomuseum.org for more *TMA MyGuides*, upcoming events and programs, classes, and membership information.

© Toledo Museum of Art

Some works of art in this guide may be out on loan to another museum, undergoing conservation work, or temporarily off view for other reasons. We regret any inconvenience.

